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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. ESHOO).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 18, 2007.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ANNA G. ESHOO to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend Ron Jackson, East Gaffney Baptist Church, Gaffney, South Carolina, offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, our Heavenly Father, Your praise will always be upon our lips because You are the wonderful counselor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

We thank You for every blessing of life. You have been so good to us. We are grateful for the privilege of living and working in this great country.

Thank You for our President and every Member of this body. May there be love for You and love for one another because love never fails. Bless each marriage and strengthen every family.

Bless our military personnel around the world. Give each one strength, grace, wisdom and courage. Comfort those families who have experienced the death of a loved one in service of our country.

Loving Father, please minister to the devastated families, students and others who are dealing with the tragedy that has occurred at Virginia Tech University.

Now I pray that You would give wisdom and clear guidance to each Mem-

ber of this body as they conduct our Nation's business today.

I offer this prayer in the wonderful name of our all sufficient Lord.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. STEARNS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

CALENDAR WEDNESDAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Today is the day of Calendar Wednesday. The Clerk will call the roll of committees.
The Clerk called the committees.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

Mr. SESSIONS. Parliamentary inquiry, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his inquiry.

Mr. SESSIONS. I understand that the procedure that the Chair just went through is known as Calendar Wednesday. Is it correct that any bill reported by a committee and placed on the Union or House calendar could have been called up by the chairman as the committee name was read?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. A non-privileged bill otherwise in order may

be called up on formal authorization by the reporting committee.

Mr. SESSIONS. Further parliamentary inquiry, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his inquiry.

Mr. SESSIONS. H.R. 1429, Head Start Reauthorization, was reported out of the Ed and Labor Committee on March 23, 2007. Would it have been in order for the chairman or his designee to call up H.R. 1429 at this time?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Clause 2(b) of rule XIII is sufficient authority for the chairman of a committee to call up a bill on Calendar Wednesday.

Mr. SESSIONS. Further parliamentary inquiry, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his inquiry.

Mr. SESSIONS. Similarly, H.R. 493, the Genetic Information Non-discrimination Act, was reported by the Ed and Labor Committee on March 5, 2007. Would it have been possible to call up H.R. 493 at this time?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Yes.

Mr. SESSIONS. Further parliamentary inquiry, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his inquiry.

Mr. SESSIONS. Is it in order for Mr. McKEON, the ranking member of the Education and Labor Committee, to call up the bill under his committee's jurisdiction, Head Start?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. A committee member other than the chairman must have specific authorization of the committee to call up a bill on Calendar Wednesday.

Mr. SESSIONS. Further parliamentary inquiry, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his inquiry.

Mr. SESSIONS. Is it in order for any member of the minority to call up a bill during the call of the committees?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. A committee member other than the chairman must have specific authorization

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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